



MEDIA RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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Final Proposal on Eastern Boundary

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NM – The final proposal for the installation's eastern boundary is being presented today, and the environmental assessment is to be published tomorrow.

The proposal is to install a fence approximately one-half mile west of Kirtland's actual boundary.

This represents a compromise that keeps all mission-related activities inside the fence, while allowing for possible alternative uses of base land that lies outside the proposed fence.

Any alternative use for the land east of the proposed fence requires both an environmental assessment and remediation of unexploded ordnance before the land can be considered "open" for any use other than for defense purposes.

Kirtland will work with the US Forest Service over the course of the next year or more to accomplish an environmental assessment on the approximately 1500 acres that lie between the proposed fence and the installation's legal boundary.

In the meantime, that land remains off-limits – as it has always been. We shall erect new signs along the actual eastern boundary that both warn people of the dangers associated with unexploded ordnance and direct passers-by to stay out of the area.

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Kirtland will request funding that begins the process of remediating the unexploded ordnance that lies between the proposed fence location and the actual eastern boundary. The result of the environment assessment will ultimately determine how this particular stretch of land is to be treated in the future.

The environmental assessment Kirtland just completed on the proposed fence will be published tomorrow in the TVI library, the East Mountain Library, and on the Kirtland AFB public website at www.kirtland.af.mil.

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Editor's Note: For more information, call the public affairs office at 846-4239 or 846-5991.